

KOREA

Leathernecks use scaling ladders to storm the sea wall at Inchon during the amphibious invasion on September 15, 1950.



could not break through the ring of air cover the United States Navy had thrown up around Iwo Jima. So Kuribayashi and his troops settled down to kill as many more marines as they could before they themselves would die. In vain the marine command tried to persuade the General by radio to surrender. The General's only answer was a grim silence. So the senseless killing went on.

By March 25th, the Japanese were cornered in a tiny pocket of rock and caves. That night they broke out of it in a counterattack which rampaged across an airfield. Confusion reigned in the darkness, but in the light of day, the last of the defenders were killed. Somewhere in the rubble of Iwo Jima—but never found—lay the rotund body of Kuribayashi.

Thus ended the bloodiest campaign in Marine Corps history. Dead: 5,324; wounded: 16,090.